

Commissioner for Patents
Application No. 09/865,196

Page 2

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0280. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

X Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 for the presentation of extra Claims.

X Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 24, 2001

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on August 24, 2001.

Gerianne M. Flannery
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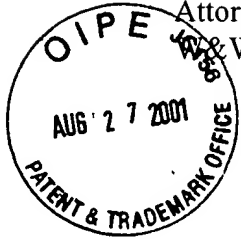
Pre-Amendment #3/A

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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. F-5728

W Ref: 1417P P 591



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of:
Kok-Hwee Ng et al.

Serial No: 09/865,196

Filed: May 24, 2001

For: A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
TRACKING THE STATE OF A BLOOD
COLLECTION IN A BLOOD
COLLECTION FACILITY

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) Examiner: Unknown

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) Art Unit:
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please delete the noted paragraphs and replace them with paragraphs printed below (marked up copies of the corresponding pages are attached as Attachments A, B, and C).

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 6 at line 2 and ending on page 6 at line 18 with the following paragraph:

The present invention is directed to an apparatus or system for collecting, using, and

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